

REMARKS

Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal on December 11, 2003 via facsimile. Independent claims 4 and 14 are amended herein to adjust the Markush group language as suggested by Examiner Nolan in a telephone conversation with Christopher Buntel on December 23, 2003.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due at this time; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2508/13240.0004.NPUS00/BNT.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher J. Buntel, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 44,573
Customer No. 23369
ATTORNEY FOR ASSIGNEE,
KANEKA CORPORATION

Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP
750 Bering Drive
Houston, TX 77057-2198
(713) 787-1569

December 29, 2003

Serial No. 09/214,881
Preliminary Amendment

4 of 4

H:\55673\\$H\XLF011.DOC